

Recommended Projects to Receive 2006 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Allocation

Proposed to streamline justice funding and grant administration, the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program allows states, tribes, and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own local needs and conditions. JAG blends the previous Byrne Formula and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) Programs to provide agencies with the flexibility to prioritize and place justice funds where they are needed most.

The stated purpose of the JAG program is to underwrite projects that reduce crime and improve public safety. County Management requested that previous recipients of LLEBG and Byrne Funds meet and determine which projects would be continued with the JAG funding. Adult Probation, County Attorney's Office, Juvenile Probation, and the Sheriff's Office met and decided that the following programs would be recommended for continued funding.

<u>On-Call Crew Supervisors</u>	<u>Adult Probation</u>	<u>\$29,352</u>
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Each month the Community Service Program initiates, coordinates and supervises over 400 work projects for adult offenders across Maricopa County. The Community Service Program employs on-call crew supervisors to oversee probationer activity at assigned work projects. The supervisors provide assignments, direction and supervision to probationers while they perform their Court-ordered community service hours.

<u>Gun Prosecution</u>	<u>County Attorney's Office</u>	<u>\$161,159</u>
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The Maricopa County Attorney's Office has experienced continual increases in firearms-related crime in Maricopa County. Prosecution of criminal offenders is the County Attorney's top mandate and this office prosecutes approximately 1,400 firearms-related cases every year. Many of the deadly weapon crimes are committed by the most dangerous criminals and require the attention of the most experienced prosecutors. Additionally, a very high percentage of these cases go to trial. Through the assignment of two prosecutors, the County Attorney will be able to focus attention on dangerous crime and close firearm-related cases in shorter timeframes. The Maricopa County Attorney's Office will also continue to work cooperatively with the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Phoenix Police Department, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (BATF) to achieve a reduction in violent firearm crime.

<u>Juvenile Electronic Monitoring</u>	<u>Juvenile Probation</u>	<u>\$131,253</u>
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Since inception of the LLEBG, part of the County's allocation has funded electronic monitoring for juvenile offenders. This successful program allows home-detention of lesser-risk juvenile offenders, with monitoring to ensure compliance and the capability for immediate responses if violations occur and reserves the limited number of secure detention beds for higher-risk offenders. Proposition 400 recommended 150 units of juvenile electronic monitoring. Currently, 125 units are utilized, 50 of which are supported by prior years LLEBG funds. Funds support necessary probation supervision staff, vendor monitoring and the cost for the electronic bracelets.

<u>Parcel Interdiction</u>	<u>Sheriff's Office</u>	<u>\$37,998</u>
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The Parcel Interdiction Team aggressively seeks to identify parcels and shipments containing narcotics or currency related to the trafficking of illicit drugs into and out of Maricopa County. In addition, the Team focuses on identifying the criminal organizations behind these shipments. The Team educates owners and employees of private mailbox companies on the indicators and methods used by illicit drug shippers. This education and cooperation has led to many seizures and arrests. Grant funding will be used to fund overtime.

MCNNET**Sheriff's Office****\$136,284**

The Maricopa County Neighborhood Narcotics Enforcement Team (MCNNET) combines the resources of individual agencies in western Maricopa County to confront the increasing narcotic activities in these communities, as well as in unincorporated areas. Standing alone, these agencies lack sufficient resources to address and impact the problem. As aggressive enforcement targeting narcotics and methamphetamine in the metropolitan Phoenix area continues, the proliferation of activity into the surrounding communities is expected to increase. Outlying areas have become havens for those criminals involved in the manufacture of methamphetamine and in narcotics transactions who are escaping the heightened law enforcement pressure from the metropolitan area. Narcotics traffickers have spread and have since established a presence in western Maricopa County communities, which are now experiencing the violence and other criminal activities plaguing the inner cities.